



Northwest Medical Associates of Chicago
Nephrology & Internal Medicine

December 19, 2017

Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: #17-029 - Melrose Village Dialysis, Melrose Park

Dear Chair Olson and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board:

I am writing to express support of the Certificate of Need request for the development of new In-Center Hemodialysis facility located at 1985 North Mannheim Road, Melrose Park, IL, 60160 to provide life-sustaining dialysis treatment, education, and support for patients with kidney disease.

I am a physician that is board certified in Nephrology and currently practicing within the market area for this facility. As related within the application, there is an identified need for additional dialysis stations to serve an identified patient population. In-center hemodialysis care is a burdensome and time intensive process for patients.

Through this facility, we can transform the lives of patients and their families by having more options in their dialysis care providers, locations, and treatment times. As you know, it is not a simple matter of having one time slot available for a patient, as patients often cannot receive dialysis at the times dictated by limited facility openings. The utilization rate of area facilities is over 74% and it is projected to continue increasing on an annual basis. This will lead to even more competition for dialysis stations by patients and complicate their already difficult lives. Ensuring patients have practical access to dialysis care is a mission we all have a responsibility to support within the community.

In partnership with DaVita, DuPage Medical Group, and other minority investors, we can bring high-quality, integrated, and necessary care to the Melrose Park and surrounding community. By leveraging the latest technology and care platforms, we will be offering patient-centered care on the forefront of dialysis care. With well-resourced partners, a local focus, and a care model seeking coordination across the metropolitan area, the proposed facility will be a positive step for patients suffering from renal disease and the providers that care for them.

For these reasons, I ask that the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board approve the dialysis facility application for the proposed Melrose Village Dialysis facility.

Sincerely,

Aneziokoro Ogbonnaya

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